GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4969
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2005
SCARCITY OF SIM CARDS IN RAJASTHAN
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of mobile phone SIM Cards in Rajasthan;

(b) whether there is any restriction for issuing SIM Cards during the last six months; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the SIM Cards are likely to be made available for sale?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) There are 16,60,971 mobile subscribers including 11,88,418 GSM phones using SIM Cards in Rajasthan as on 28.02.2005.

(b)&(c) There is no scarcity of mobile phone SIM Cards in Rajasthan. Post-paid mobile connections of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) are available on demand. However, release of new pre-paid mobile connections by BSNL in Rajasthan is being controlled since last six months due to network capacity constraints. In this regard, BSNL is taking action for augmenting its mobile network in Rajasthan by 8.5 Lakhs during 2005 to meet the overwhelming demand and the new pre-paid mobile connections of BSNL are expected to be available from June 2005 onwards.